

OVERSIGHT PLAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

112TH CONGRESS

Clause 2(d) of Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives for the 112th Congress requires each standing Committee to adopt an oversight plan for the two-year period of the Congress and to submit the plan to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and House Administration not later than February 15th of the first session of the Congress.

This is the oversight plan for the Committee on Homeland Security for the 112th Congress. It includes the areas in which the Committee expects to conduct oversight during the 112th Congress, but does not preclude oversight or investigation of additional matters as the need arises.

In the 112th Congress, the Full Committee will examine terrorist threats against the homeland, including the increasing threat of homegrown terrorism and Islamic radicalization in the homeland, as evidenced by the terrorist attacks at Fort Hood and Times Square, and thwarted plots on the New York City subway and in Portland, Oregon. As stated by the Attorney General, in the last 24 months, there have been 126 terrorism-related indictments, including 50 against US citizens. The Committee will also analyze the radicalization of U.S. residents by foreign terrorist organizations via the Internet and the influence of English speaking radicals such as Anwar Al Awlaki. The Committee also intends to examine what approach the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) plans to take to address the increasing radicalization of individuals within the United States.

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will also examine the effect on national security of the transportation of unprivileged enemy combatants to the United States to be detained and tried before a jury in a Federal civilian court. The examination will include a review of the potential risk of holding high-value detainees, such as Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and other co-conspirators of the attacks of September 11th, on domestic soil; the risk of inadvertent disclosure of sensitive information during the trial; and the recommendations delivered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS or Department) as part of the Guantanamo Review Task Force.

The Committee will also examine the Obama Administration's policy concerning the Detention Center at the U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. This oversight will include a review of the Secretary of Homeland Security's role as a member of the President's Guantanamo Detention Task Force, as outlined in Executive Order 13492. Furthermore, the Committee will examine the homeland security ramifications of the Administration's plans to purchase detention space within the United States for the purposes of detaining enemy combatants currently held at Guantanamo Bay and conducting military commissions for terrorists detained at Guantanamo.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COUNTERTERRORISM AND INTELLIGENCE

COUNTERTERRORISM

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine the counterterrorism policies of the U.S. government, with specific focus on the Department of Homeland Security. This examination will include an assessment of the worldwide threat against the U.S. homeland from Al Qaeda core, Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), al Shahbab, Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and other emerging terrorist groups.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ENTERPRISE

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will conduct oversight of the Department of Homeland Security's Intelligence Enterprise, including intelligence activities throughout the Department and component agencies. Additionally, the Committee will oversee the progress made in the coordination and collaboration of information collection and intelligence analysis occurring across the DHS Intelligence Enterprise, as well as the further development and role of the Homeland Security Intelligence Council (HSIC) in coordination and collaboration with Departmental intelligence activities.

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will review efforts to build the intelligence, analytical, and assessment capabilities of the Department and to ensure its full participation in the Intelligence Community as part of its homeland security mission. The Committee will examine whether the Department is receiving relevant intelligence and law enforcement information from other Federal agencies in a timely manner; whether the Secretary of Homeland Security is appropriately involved in the prioritization of the Federal government's intelligence collection requirements for homeland security purposes; and the Department's role in managing, distributing, and otherwise using terrorist threat information in furtherance of its homeland security mission.

Additionally, the Committee will examine the hiring authorities, practices, and career-development of intelligence analysts and professionals within the Department. The Committee will examine the progress of DHS intelligence analyst training programs, and whether they are meeting the needs of both the Department and state, local, and private sector partners.

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

Throughout the 112th Congress, the Committee will track the development of the newly reorganized Department of Homeland Security Counterintelligence Program, to ensure it is fully meeting the Department's needs. The primary mission of DHS' Counterintelligence Program is to prevent adversaries from penetrating the department to exploit sensitive information, operations, programs, personnel, and resources.

INFORMATION SHARING

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine the progress being made to improve terrorist and homeland security information sharing efforts among Federal, state, and local governments, law enforcement entities, first responders, emergency management personnel, and the private sector. The Committee intends to explore the Department of Homeland Security's coordination and collaboration with the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC), particularly through the Interagency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group, and efforts to disseminate necessary terrorist threat information among Federal, state, and local governments and the private sector. While supporting the Department's and government-wide information sharing efforts, the Committee will review efforts to ensure the security of sensitive and classified information and guard against unlawful access or disclosure, as in the case of WikiLeaks.

In addition to examining the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, the Committee will examine the Department of Homeland Security's efforts to establish policy for and coordinate information sharing efforts from across the Federal government to and from state and local fusion centers throughout the country. Additionally, the Committee will examine the Department's internal processes and coordination efforts in sharing information between the fusion centers and the Department. Further, the Committee will examine unclassified information designations and whether such designations impact the ability of the Department or other Federal agencies to share information among Federal, state, local and private sector partners.

THE NATIONAL OPERATIONS CENTER

The Department of Homeland Security's National Operations Center (NOC) serves as the national nerve center for information sharing and domestic incident management, by increasing the vertical coordination among Federal, state, and local government and private sector partners. In the 112th Congress, the Committee will oversee the Department's efforts to collect and fuse information in the NOC in order to maintain domestic situational awareness, and to carry out its role as the primary national-level center during domestic incidents and special events.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine the homeland security operations of the United States Secret Service, including its critical role of protecting the President of the United States and presidential candidates in the 2012 presidential election.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON BORDER AND MARITIME SECURITY

OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF THE BORDER

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will focus on additional policies and resources necessary for the Department to gain operational control over the land and maritime borders of the United States, including but not limited to personnel, technology, infrastructure, and

coordination. The Committee will also assess the status of programs and international agreements to secure U.S. land borders on the north and the south from illegal entry by persons or contraband.

Furthermore, the Committee continues to be concerned about the threat of spill-over violence stemming from the rise of drug cartels and the increasingly violent conflict throughout Mexico. During the 112th Congress, the Committee will conduct rigorous oversight of these issues.

BORDER SCREENING AND TERRORIST TRAVEL

In the 112th Congress, the Committee intends to review efforts to ensure the deployment and implementation of technology, training, and infrastructure enhancements to assist border and consular officials in identifying, intercepting, and disrupting terrorists or others who would do our Nation harm and who are attempting to enter or travel within the United States. As a part of this review, the Committee will monitor the Department's efforts to detect, detain, and remove aliens apprehended at or near U.S. borders and ports of entry who are subject to deportation, particularly those from special interest countries. The Committee will address security-related deficiencies in the immigration and naturalization process that terrorists could use to gain entry to or remain in the country for illegitimate purposes. These weaknesses have and will continue to be exploited by terrorists and those seeking to commit terrorist acts. The Committee intends to explore challenges preventing the aggressive deployment of personnel to high-risk visa issuing posts to improve visa security.

The Committee will also examine the integration, security, and reliability of criminal, immigration, and terrorist databases used to screen persons seeking to enter this country, to include advanced passenger information and the US-VISIT program. The Committee will also assess the development of secure travel documents. In addition, the Committee will examine the integration and effectiveness of transportation and border security screening systems for detecting high-risk passengers and cargo transported within the United States and across our borders.

PORT AND MARITIME SECURITY

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine various aspects of port and maritime security, including the security of port facilities; the screening of vessels, passengers, cargo, and crew for potential terrorists, terrorist weapons, and contraband; the development of international security standards for shipping and containers; and the implementation and operation of the Transportation Worker Identification Card (TWIC). The Committee also plans to review how the Department manages risk emerging from maritime threats and vulnerabilities such as small boats that could be utilized in acts of terrorism.

The Committee plans to review the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department's supply chain security programs, such as the Customs Trade Partnership against Terrorism (C-TPAT) and the Container Security Initiative (CSI), to ensure a proper balance between the facilitation of lawful trade and the security of America. This will include an assessment of

implementation of the Maritime and Transportation Security Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-295), the Security and Accountability for Every (SAFE) Port Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-347), relevant provisions of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-458), and the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-53).

U.S. COAST GUARD

In the 112th Congress, the Committee plans to review the Coast Guard's homeland security missions, to include ports, waterways, and coastal security; drug interdiction; migrant interdiction; law enforcement; and defense readiness. The Committee will examine Coast Guard afloat, aviation, and shore-based operations in support of these missions to ensure that the service is using a risk-based, layered strategy to enforce laws and keep America's waters secure. This will include a specific assessment of the Coast Guard's anti-terrorist capabilities, most notably those found within the Deployable Operations Group and its units, including Maritime Safety and Security Teams, Port Security Units, Tactical Law Enforcement Teams, and the Maritime Security Response Team. Additionally, the Committee will review resource and asset needs within the Coast Guard to determine whether the service is operationally ready to address threats and emergencies while pursuing a long-term sustainable path of fleet recapitalization. The Committee will specifically examine the progress, efficiency, and efficacy of acquisitions programs such as the Integrated Deepwater Systems project to ensure major procurements remain on schedule without a reduction in readiness throughout the service.

Furthermore, the Committee will closely investigate the Coast Guard's specific maritime security operations and initiatives, such as the International Port Security Program and the inspection of vessels originating from ports with inadequate anti-terrorism measures. The Committee will examine these and other programs to ensure that the service is developing a full sense of maritime domain awareness and executing all of its missions in the most effective manner possible to keep America secure.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION SECURITY

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR TRANSPORTATION SECURITY

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine the Department of Homeland Security's continuing efforts to implement the National Strategy for Transportation Security; the efforts of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in fulfilling its mandate under the Aviation and Transportation Security Act of 2001; and TSA's policies and programs to address security threats against all modes of transportation. The Committee's review will consider the Department's capacity for protecting the most at-risk transportation systems, the resiliency of critical infrastructure related to transportation, the development and deployment of technology to detect biological, chemical, and radiological threats, passenger screening, and other methods to prevent or mitigate terrorist attacks. Additionally, the Committee will examine the Department's staffing needs, its inventory and use of detection canines, and its allocation and objectives for transportation security grants.

PASSENGER AND BAGGAGE SCREENING

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will review TSA's deployment of technology and implementation of procedures related to the screening of passengers in all modes of transportation and will examine TSA's balancing security interests with the need for the efficient flow of travel, including privacy and civil liberties safeguards. The Committee will conduct oversight on the cost and effectiveness of technology related to the screening of baggage; information sharing within the Federal interagency process; coordination with international partners, and the effectiveness of the credentialing process. The Committee will also review TSA's passenger search policies and pre-screening programs, including the screening of passengers against no-fly and selectee lists, the performance of the Secure Flight program, and other measures that affect the security of domestic and international air travelers.

AVIATION SECURITY

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine the risks and consequences of terrorist attacks on passenger and cargo aircraft, as well as the development of security measures to reduce or mitigate such risks. The Committee's oversight will review programs and procedures implemented by the Department of Homeland Security related to the security of all types of aircraft, including commercial passenger, air cargo, and general aviation aircraft. In addition, the Committee will examine airport perimeter and access controls and technology for limiting access to the secure areas of commercial and general aviation airports. The Committee will also examine the training and management of the Federal Air Marshal Service.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will review the Transportation Security Administration's efforts to secure surface transit systems, including the most at-risk mass transit systems, buses, subway light rail, and passenger rail, freight rail, pipelines, and highway systems. Moreover, in examining the security of surface transportation systems, the Committee will consider the roles and responsibilities of other DHS components including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as well as agencies external to DHS, including the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), state and local agencies and private industry. The Committee's examination will include a review of TSA plans for providing resources to adequately train and staff surface transportation inspector units.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND COMMUNICATIONS

FEDERAL PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine the Administration's efforts to review and update Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8 (HSPD-8), which directs the Department to create a national program and multi-year planning system to conduct terrorism preparedness-related exercises, and the impact the delay caused by this review has had on efforts to update the National Planning Scenarios and other preparedness activities. The Committee will

also examine the Department's efforts to implement the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006.

NATIONAL RESPONSE AND INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine the effectiveness of the National Response Framework (NRF), including the Department's role in coordinating the response efforts of all applicable Federal departments and agencies and the coordination among the Department and state and local governments, first responders, nongovernmental organizations and the private sector in implementing the NRF. The Committee will also examine the development and integration of doctrine that addresses prevention, protection, and recovery, including the draft National Disaster Recovery Framework. In addition, during the 112th Congress, the Committee will oversee the Department's implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), including the Department's integration of NIMS with the NRF.

INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will monitor the progression of the Emergency Communications Preparedness Center and the Department's Office of Emergency Communications and Office of Interoperability and Compatibility. Specifically, the Committee will review the Department's coordination and planning, technical assistance, communications standards, and best practices for interoperable communications systems and the proposed public safety wireless broadband network for first responders. The Committee will also oversee the Department's implementation of grants for interoperable communications. In addition, the Committee will examine the Department's progress in the establishment of the Integrated Public Alerts and Warnings System to ensure interoperability among different warning systems.

ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND FIRST RESPONDERS

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine the extent to which the Department implements a risk-based approach to the allocation of grants and ways to improve the Department's administration of grants to enhance the ability of state and local governments and emergency responders to mitigate against, prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from a terrorism attack or natural disaster. The Committee will review the coordination of the Department's grant programs with other agencies across the Federal government; coordination within the Department in developing guidance and administering grants; challenges in the funding pipeline; strength of regional partnerships developed through grants; and the distribution and expenditure of such grants at the state and local levels. The Committee will also review ongoing efforts to measure grant funding investments against improved preparedness capabilities.

FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will review the Department's terrorism preparedness training programs, incorporation of such training into first responder certification processes, the level of coordination among Federal, state, and local training programs and the

awareness of first responders serving state, local and tribal governments concerning these programs. The Committee will also review existing DHS training centers and determine whether the Department optimally utilizes these facilities to enhance first responder terrorism preparedness.

EXERCISES AND SIMULATIONS

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will monitor the Department's implementation of HSPD-8 and its progress in creating a planning system to conduct terrorism preparedness-related exercises. To that end, the Committee will examine the Departments' National Exercise Program and ongoing efforts to streamline and improve it to ensure the program enhances the preparedness of the Nation. The Committee will review whether FEMA is incorporating lessons learned from national exercises into future training, planning, exercises, and other activities. The Committee will conduct oversight of the National Level Exercise 2011 (NLE 2011), which is centered on a catastrophic earthquake in the New Madrid Seismic Zone and examine related Department of Defense (DoD) led exercises.

CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, AND NUCLEAR PLANNING, PREPAREDNESS, AND RESPONSE

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine the significant challenges posed by chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) weapons to homeland security and assess the government's progress in implementing security strategies including prevention, preparedness, and response approaches that utilize multiple tools and policies to reduce the likelihood and impact of CBRN attacks and, thus, the CBRN risk to the Nation. The Committee will oversee the Department's efforts to understand the evolving CBRN threat landscape, as well as integrate and share this information. The Committee will examine the Department's capability to mitigate CBRN risks through appropriate means including preparedness and response to CBRN threats with a focus on public health capacity to respond. In particular, the Committee will look at the capacity of the medical community to ready its existing resources, develop its capabilities, and surge in times of crisis. A critical facet of the Nation's medical preparedness for CBRN threats is the availability of effective medical countermeasures. The Committee will consider issues such as priorities for countermeasure development and state and local preparedness for distribution and dispensing of countermeasures. The Committee will also oversee preparedness for agricultural terrorism events, to include food defense policies and veterinary leadership at the Department of Homeland Security.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CYBERSECURITY, INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION, AND SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES

CYBERSECURITY

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine the Department's role in hardening our national critical infrastructure against cyber attacks by fortifying Federal civilian networks and collaborating with the private sector to develop the means to detect and prevent cyber attacks, reduce vulnerabilities, provide incident response, and facilitate recovery. That oversight will consider the Department's ability to detect the incursion of malicious activity; attribute the

source of that activity; and promote best practices, risk assessments, and sharing of threat information across all levels of government and the private sector. In addition, the Committee will examine the Department's ability to foster cybersecurity research, development, and educational activities to secure cyber networks. Additionally, the Committee will examine the Department's efforts to recruit and train cybersecurity personnel. The Committee will also examine the resiliency of national critical infrastructure to withstand cyber attacks and the need to optimize supply chain risk management to protect against manipulation without unnecessarily impeding commerce.

The Committee will review the integration of the various cyber missions carried out across the Federal government, including the Department's collaboration with the defense and intelligence agencies and its role in fulfilling the goals of the National Cyber Security Plan. The Committee also will examine the development and implementation of the National Cyber Incident Response Plan, which expands upon the National Response Framework.

THE SAFETY ACT

The Support Anti-terrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies Act (the SAFETY Act) was included as subtitle G of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, and authorized the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to designate, upon application, certain anti-terrorism products and services as qualified to participate in a Federal liability protection program. The SAFETY Act helps to foster the creation of anti-terrorism products and services and facilitates job creation. During the 112th Congress, the Committee will review the need for further congressional guidance on the process and criteria used to review and approve applications for SAFETY Act certification and designation; the process and criteria used to renew SAFETY Act certifications and designations; expansion of SAFETY Act protection for risk mitigation strategies, processes, and procedures; the increased use of SAFETY Act protection internationally; and the Department's ability to keep pace with the rising demand for SAFETY Act protections.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

Pursuant to Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7 (HSPD-7), the Department is responsible for integrating sector specific strategies into a National Strategy for Critical Infrastructure Protection, and for coordinating Federal efforts across all such infrastructure sectors. During the 112th Congress, Committee oversight will focus on the implementation of the National Strategy for Critical Infrastructure Protection, including the Department's national coordination responsibilities and its sector specific critical infrastructure protection responsibilities. The Committee will also examine the Department's efforts to assess national critical infrastructure priorities by maintaining the National Asset Database.

In addition, the Committee will review the Department's progress in identifying, prioritizing, recommending, and implementing protective measures to reduce vulnerabilities for critical infrastructure and key resources, including its administration of programs to promote private sector sharing of critical infrastructure threat and vulnerability-related information, and its administration of systems and programs to provide timely warnings of potential risks to critical infrastructure.

SAFETY AND SECURITY OF FEDERAL BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will continue to monitor the safety and security of Federal buildings and Facilities, including the role and responsibility of the Federal Protective Service.

CHEMICAL FACILITY SECURITY

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will continue to examine the implementation, scope, and impact of the Department's existing authority and regulations to secure chemical facilities and take action, as appropriate, to optimally balance the program's effectiveness in reducing the risk posed by certain chemical facilities and the everyday demands for chemicals in commerce.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will oversee the capability of the Department's Science & Technology Directorate to rapidly develop and deliver products and technology solutions to its customers, including the operating components of DHS, and state and local emergency responders and officials, to help them secure the homeland by preventing, protecting against, and responding to terrorist threats and natural disasters. The Committee will examine, in particular, the Department's progress in developing a more rigorous process to identify, prioritize, and fund research, development, testing, and evaluation (RDT&E) opportunities that balances risk to the homeland with cost, impact, and time to deliver. The Committee will review the Department's efforts to coordinate the homeland security research and development agenda and leverage scientific knowledge and technical expertise, research, and facilities at relevant universities, research institutions, government and national laboratories, and the private sector, including the Homeland Security Centers of Excellence and Federal Funded Research and Development Centers. The Committee will also assess the status of the Department's technical infrastructure and workforce to ensure current and future homeland security RDT&E needs will be met.

The Committee will review the Department's activities relating to evaluation, testing, and certification of private sector homeland security technologies. The Committee will evaluate the Department's role in facilitating the transfer and commercialization of exiting technologies (including modification of military technologies) for use by Federal state, local and tribal government and first responders.

TECHNOLOGY TO COUNTER CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, AND NUCLEAR THREATS

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will examine the Department's progress in improving the Nation's capability to counter the threat of terrorist use of chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons in the United States through multi-layered approaches that emphasize early detection at the Federal, state, and local levels, as well as post-event capabilities for remediation. The Committee will oversee the Department's development and implementation of the overarching strategic plan for the Global Nuclear Detection Architecture. The Committee will review the Department's chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear analysis capabilities

and information sharing mechanisms to provide actionable information and an integrated operating system to guide decision makers in carrying out appropriate responses, including interdiction. To enhance the ability to interdict chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear smuggling across U.S. borders (land, air, and sea), the Committee will oversee the Department's progress in employing risk-based methods for developing, testing, certifying, deploying, and operating current and next generation chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear detection equipment. The Committee will also examine the Department's ability to detect chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear materials in the interior of the U.S. and the Department's coordination with state and local partners to reduce the risk of radiological and nuclear terrorism to metropolitan urban areas and critical infrastructure through expanding the Securing the Cities Initiative. Finally, the Committee will examine the Department's chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear forensic activities to support national priorities for deterrence, attribution, and prosecution.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT, INVESTIGATIONS, AND MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS AND EFFICIENCY INITIATIVES

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will oversee the Department of Homeland Security's day-to-day operations to ensure that it is operating in the most efficient and effective manner possible. Pursuant to Clause 2(d)(F) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee will work to identify potential opportunities to eliminate duplicative or unnecessary programs, find efficiencies that will contribute to the Department's ability to meet its vital missions, and identify areas for cost savings. The Committee will also conduct rigorous oversight to ensure departmental regulations enhance security without posing an unnecessary barrier to private sector job creation. The Committee will fully investigate homeland security programs and practices, as warranted.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will continue its oversight of the Department of Homeland Security's efforts to consolidate its 13 separate financial management systems into one, unified system, known as the Transformation and Systems Consolidation (TASC) project. In coordination with this review, the Committee will also review the Department's efforts to enhance internal controls and provide information that will enable clean audit opinions.

DEPARTMENTAL WORKFORCE

Throughout the 112th Congress, the Committee will monitor the Department's efforts to recruit and retain personnel and to address employee concerns set forth in the Office of Personnel Management's Federal Human Capital Survey and the Department's own personnel surveys, which have indicated morale problems across the Department. In addition, the Committee will examine the Department's Balanced Workforce Initiative, which seeks to convert contractor positions into Federal employees, to ensure an appropriate balance is struck between Federal employees and private contracts and guard against any unnecessary elimination of private sector jobs.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will review the Department's efforts to address information technology (IT) challenges, including the management and integration of the Department's IT systems. The Committee will review the authorities and activities of the Chief Information Officer (CIO) and component CIOs to ensure the effective management and coordination of these key functions. The Committee will also monitor the Department's progress in IT architectural planning, investment management, policy development, operations, and related personnel management.

HSPD-12 IMPLEMENTATION

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will monitor the Department's implementation of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12), *Policy for a Common Identification Standard for Federal Employees and Contractors*, including the Department's completion of card issuance, installation of card readers, and other identification security efforts, such as the use of logical access control systems.

HEADQUARTERS CONSOLIDATION

In the 112th Congress, the Committee will review the Department's efforts to consolidate its headquarters from more than 40 locations throughout the National Capital Region to eight or nine locations. The cornerstone of this effort is the St. Elizabeth's headquarters consolidation project. The Committee will monitor the progress of the consolidation to ensure the plan is completed on time and within budget.

ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT

During the 112th Congress, the Committee will review the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security to improve the integration and coordination of the procurement functions of its components, and to ensure that effective management controls are put in place to prevent contract waste, fraud, and abuse while promoting efficiency and effectiveness. The Committee will review the authorities and activities of the Chief Procurement Officer to ensure the effective management of this key function. The Committee also will review the Department's implementation of Section 831(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, which grants the Secretary authority with respect to research and development projects to use more flexible contracting mechanisms in an effort to attract "nontraditional government contractors" for needed homeland security technologies, as well as the Secretary's use of other streamlined acquisition practices.

PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

Section 222 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (the Act) created a Privacy Officer for the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that the Department's information gathering and analysis functions and other programs across its components adhere to established standards for

the protection of privacy. Section 705 of the Act also established an Officer for Civil Rights and Liberties to review and assess information alleging abuses of civil rights or civil liberties by employees and officials of the Department of Homeland Security. During the 112th Congress, the Committee will monitor the Department's efforts under such laws to strike an appropriate balance between the need to combat terrorist attacks against the United States with the privacy expectations and civil rights of U.S. citizens.